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Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Implementation Review Group
First resumed ninth session
Vienna, 3–5 September 2018

Draft report of the Implementation Review Group on its first resumed ninth session, held in Vienna from 3–5 September 2018

Addendum

I. Introduction

A. Opening of the session

1. The Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption held its first resumed ninth session in Vienna from 3 to 5 September 2018.

2. The Implementation Review Group held five meetings, which were chaired by Ignacio Baylina Ruiz (Spain).

3. The representative of the European Union, speaking on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, noted that corruption was a threat to democracy, good governance and fair competition and that it undermined the rule of law and the fundamental values on which societies were based. He referred to the need for stronger judicial systems that would enforce laws and work towards a more peaceful and just society, as recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular its Sustainable Development Goal 16. Moreover, the representative noted that transparency, accountability and the fight against corruption were key principles guiding EU action and referred to the European Union's action to inter alia reinforce its rules against money-laundering in order to better address issues of beneficial ownership and due diligence. The representative reaffirmed the European Union's commitment to the Implementation Review Mechanism. He emphasized the importance of cooperation between UNODC and other relevant secretariats, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and the Organization of American States. In this regard, the representative welcomed resolution 7/4 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on "Enhancing synergies between relevant multilateral organizations responsible for review mechanisms in the field of anti-corruption", while also encouraging the secretariat to ensure its effective implementation. Furthermore, the representative acknowledged that additional efforts had been made between those secretariats and that new cooperation arrangements could lead to improved cooperation in areas such as improving data collection, sharing of information, as well as enhancing performance through training. Reference was also made to the streamlining of

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schedules of the different monitoring bodies, the need to avoid duplication, reduce the overall workload and prevent inadvertent increases in cost. The representative expressed the hope that strengthening the cooperation and coordination among the secretariats of anti-corruption monitoring bodies would contribute to the deepening of global efforts in the fight against corruption.

B. Attendance

4. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting of the Implementation Review Group: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

5. The European Union, a regional economic integration organization that is a party to the Convention, was represented at the meeting.

6. In accordance with Rule 2 of resolution 4/5, the Conference decided that intergovernmental organizations, Secretariat units, United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system may be invited to participate in the sessions of the Implementation Review Group.

7. The following Secretariat units, United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system were represented by observers: Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

8. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (GCC), International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), and International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

9. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta, an entity maintaining a permanent observer office at Headquarters, was represented.